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# WAUKESHA COUNTY BOARD

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 17, 2014

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### **Committee Members Present:**

Chair Paul Decker

James Heinrich

David Swan

Peter Wolff

Patricia Haukohl

Duane Paulson

Gilbert Yerke

### **Others Present:**

Chief of Staff Mark Mader

Programs and Projects Analyst Windy Jicha

County Clerk Kathleen Novack

Meghan Sprager of Workforce Development Board

County Board Candidate Michael Starich

Francisco Sanchez of Workforce Development Board

Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth

Deputy County Clerk Kelly Yaeger

Director of Administration Norm Cummings

Citizen Ron Frea

Daryl Enriquez of the Waukesha Freeman

Decker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was distributed.

### **Approve Executive Committee Minutes of January 20, 2014**

Motion: Haukohl moved, Paulson second, to approve the minutes of January 20, 2014. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Meeting Approval**

Motion: Swan moved, Haukohl second, to approve Chair Decker's attendance at the National Association of Counties legislative conference in March 2014. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- Invite state legislators to discuss Waukesha County's opposition to a regional tax for a new entertainment arena. (Paulson)
- Update on entertainment arena tax regional study group by Keith Swartz and Suzanne Kelly. (Decker)

### **Legislative update**

Spaeth said the state assembly will complete its work in March 2014 while the senate finishes in April 2014. Even though it is a chaotic time for the state legislature, there is little that Waukesha County is involved in. Waukesha County, opposed to the audit provision in the "clerk's bill," took meetings last week to stall it.

Swan asked has follow-up been done on the implements of husbandry (IoH) bill? Spaeth said Public Works Director Bussler reviewed the bill and felt it did not affect Waukesha County. Swan called this bill "disturbing" and "not user friendly" and said someone needs to represent Waukesha County's farmers. Haukohl said Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) took positions on IoH and phosphorus compliance bills. The phosphorus bill will affect many communities and groups are concerned about the amount of phosphorus water treatment plants can allow into the water. Haukohl has concerns about this bill. Spaeth said she sent the phosphorus bill to Land Resources Manager Perry Lindquist for review and he had no

concerns about it. Spaeth said Waukesha County only lobbied on the clerk's bill, which "isn't going anywhere" and will be stalled, amended or changed.

In response to Yerke's inquiry, Spaeth said Waukesha County does not oppose pending policy related to the age one is considered a juvenile because \$2.5M was added to the bill

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 168-O-086: Direct the Waukesha County Clerk's Office to Invite Proposals from Newspapers Published in Waukesha County to Act as the Official Newspaper for Waukesha County**

Novack reminded the committee that she presented this issue to the committee in December 2013 and said this ordinance follows state statutes in regards to securing an official newspaper to publish all county notices and advertisements. Novack will seek proposals for contracts of not less than two years with the option for extensions subject to the county board's executive committee approval.

Motion: Paulson moved, Swan second, to approve Ordinance 168-O-086.

In regards to Yerke's question, Novack said the intent was for this committee to review proposals and select the winning proposal. Novack agreed language pertaining to vendor selection needed to be added to the ordinance.

Motion: Paulson moved, Haukohl second, to amend Ordinance 168-O-086 by adding language specifying that the county board executive committee will approve the initial vendor. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion to approve Ordinance 168-O-086 as amended was carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider the Following Appointments:**

168-A-031: Appointment of Robert Putney to the Sheriff Civil Service Commission

168-A-032: Appointment of Kurt W. Bauer as Waukesha County Surveyor

Motion: Paulson moved, Swan second, to approve Appointments 168-A-031 and 168-A-032. Motion carried 7-0.

**Update on Wisconsin County's Association (WCA) Legislative Exchange**

Haukohl gave an update on her experiences at the WCA conference which included presentations relating to legislation, the heroin epidemic, WCA'S lobbying efforts, how little the general public knows about county government, propane, methods of promoting county government, coalition building, lobbying, etc. The conference also included a legislative roundtable with Assembly Speaker Robin Voss, Assembly Minority Leader Peter Barca, Senate Minority Leader Chris Larson and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald. Spaeth said she attended the second day of the conference and enjoyed the legislative roundtable and presentations on transportation and budget surplus.

Supervisor Larry Nelson attended the conference and prepared a written report documenting his experience. A copy of the report and conference handouts obtained by Nelson were shared with the committee.

**Update on Economic Development Website**

Decker showed a video from [www.growingwaukeshacounty.org](http://www.growingwaukeshacounty.org) which describes the economic development platform. Decker said the platform will be an aggregate site housing data from a multitude of

economic development organizations that can be shared with partners. The platform will brand Waukesha County, promote county assets and funding opportunities for businesses, centralize communications and share resources while respecting the identities and missions of the locally involved organizations. The platform will also provide an interactive experience to platform users in an effort to retain talent, attract new businesses and promote industry clusters within the county. In the future, the platform will be an interactive web application and provide access to resources, enhanced communications, awareness and collaboration. Eventually the platform will be shared with the region and state. Sanchez said all businesses in Waukesha County would be provided access to the platform.

Decker said projections indicate that Waukesha County will run out of workers in 2015. The platform will help avert that disaster in the fastest growing area of the state. The Waukesha County Economic Development Corporation and the county board each provided \$15K to begin implementation of the platform. Sanchez talked about employers' needs finding skilled workers to fill job openings and how the platform would provide resources. The platform will minimize duplicative efforts and increase collaboration countywide. Decker said stable solutions are needed to deal with today's economic development issues.

Haukohl asked how does the platform mesh with Workforce Development Center resources? Sanchez said the platform would compliment the services at the Workforce Development Center and provide a platform where employers can find answers. Decker said the platform would seamlessly integrate economic development websites but not replace them.

Paulson said it is important to keep all players involved in the planning process. Sanchez said every entity that deals with economic development in the county was invited to the planning process.

### **Presentation on County Board Twitter Account**

Spaeth said the county board Twitter account she started three months ago is helping the board get additional press coverage. Spaeth gave the committee a tour of Twitter and explained its functionality and asked committee members to let her know if they have any thing they would like her to tweet.

In response to Haukohl and Yerke's questions, Spaeth said the account has 98 followers most of which are media related. She is the only one in the office with access to the account. Decker said it is important to have administrative controls on Twitter accounts and to be careful who is given access to the account. Tweets could be controversial and spread quickly. Heinrich asked are there liability concerns related to possible errors and omissions? Decker said Spaeth has some coverage as a county employee.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- Presentation on County Board Twitter Account (Paulson)
- Update on Economic Development Website (Paulson)

### **County Board Committee Reports by Committee Chairs for the Following 2014 Meetings:**

Land Use – January 21 – Heinrich reported that the committee approved ordinance 168-O-076 and heard reports on an off-road bicycle trail at Minooka Park and emergency management plans for park trails.

Finance – January 22 – Haukohl said the committee approved six ordinances and a resolution, heard reports on the disposal of fixed assets, 2013-tax foreclosure process and refinancing a 2007 bond, and went into closed session to discuss pending litigation on a workers compensation claim.

Human Resources – January 21 – Paulson said the committee approved Ordinance 168-O-083 and had a presentation on the election system upgrade.

Judiciary – February 14 – Wolff said the committee approved four ordinances and heard a report on Waukesha County Mass Fatality Plan.

Motion: Paulson moved, Heinrich second, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Wolff  
Secretary